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M/EB 371/63  
5 September 1963  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Defensive Systems Division, OSI

ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

FROM: Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT: Specific Geographic Patterns on Kamchatka Peninsula, USSR

REFERENCE: Cable - IN 89771, 2330Z 03Sep63

1. This memorandum is in response to your verbal requirement for our comments on two ground patterns located on the western side of Kamchatka Peninsula and referenced in Cable IN 89771 dated 2330Z 03 Sep 63.

2. The first one was described as a quarter circle with a radius of approximately 1,500 feet, located at 58-04N 159-30E and observed on the follow-



The ground pattern fitting this description was observed on the referenced photography but was located at approximately 58-15N 159-30E along the south edge of one of the branches of the Voyampolka River as plotted on Army Map Service; series DESPA-1; sheet no. 57-5; 1st edition; scale 1:250,000 (TOP SECRET [REDACTED]). This is a natural geographic pattern, not man made. It is caused by a combination of shadow from a slight rise in terrain along the river bank, breaks in the snow cover and an ox bow pattern along a former course of the river.

3. The second cited ground pattern was described as rectangular in appearance and as being located at 57-49N 160-00E. It was observed on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At approximately these coordinates on the referenced frame of photography an "L" shaped ground scar was noted in some rugged terrain between two branches of the Mutnaya River. No rectangular patterns were observed anywhere in the vicinity of these coordinates. The "L" shaped pattern is caused by the intersection of two heavily eroded, generally straight ravines and is definitely not man made.

Declass Review by NGA

TOP SECRET [REDACTED]

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4. The photo analyst on this project is [ ] and he may be  
contacted on extension [ ] should there be any questions regarding this  
memorandum.

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